









by Dr. Mary Livers

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Hello, Everyone:

Well, the Saints played a really good game. The coach used creativity to come back and make a really good effort. That's okay, we will go on to the next season. I'm shifting now to cheering for the Baltimore Ravens. It's been a few years since they had a good go at it. Next week I want to talk with you about perfection. Stay tuned, it may not be what you think.

As many of you may know, I serve on the board of the DOC Credit Union. I am impressed with how the credit union was created to be a help to our members, who but for the credit union could not get financial help. The financial institution is very sound and well managed, and I've been impressed with how they have addressed the needs of our staff who are members. I would encourage anyone who is interested to visit the website at www.doccu.org and consider joining. The financial services may be beneficial, as many of the credit union's services are easier to access than from a commercial bank.

Well, it's been another short week, but those four-day weeks are over, folks! Really! It's time to get back into the swing. We have to work five days in a row? I guess we just have to get back in the groove. Of course, Mardi Gras is on the way.

I'm in Phoenix attending meetings of the Council of Juvenile Correctional Administrators (CJCA). The ACA winter conference is also being held. We are looking forward to ACA's accreditation hearings this weekend. It's beautiful here in Phoenix, the weather is perfect. I really like Phoenix but I wouldn't want to live here. Not enough green stuff. And the few trees they have here – I think I'm allergic to all of them.

I had a good travel experience with this flight. The plane was packed, and you may know that Southwest Airlines is a cattle call. I was the very last person to board the plan, as I had forgotten to print out my boarding pass before I arrived. For future flights, I certainly will not forget to print my boarding pass ahead of time. I don't know what all these people are doing in Phoenix, but all the people I've talked to said their flights were also packed.

Officially, spring is around the corner, but unofficially, I don't think we ever got winter this year. It looks like winter just never arrived. (Except in Seattle.) You probably don't mind unless you have a natural gas well in your backyard and hoped to sell a lot of gas to the people up north to keep warm. That hasn't been the case this year. (Except in Seattle.)

Well, I'll close now, as ever with my thanks to each and every one of you, in every OJJ office and facility, for all you do every day to meet the mission. See you next Monday!

Sincerely, "Doc" Dr. Mary Livers